14 August 2024

Wendy McGuiness wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

Your request for official information, reference: HNZ00055922

The Ministry of Health transferred part of your information regarding face masks to Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora (Health NZ) on 12 July 2024. You have asked for the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Q2: As a follow on from our original question 5, did QSi (or the new company) produce any additional masks for MOH? If yes, can you update the Table 1 you provided to include the number of masks produced to 30 June 2024?

Q3: To clarify, does MOH currently have a contract in 30 June 2024 with the entity that bought QSi (formally known as QSi)? If no, when did that existing contract come to an end? Can you also advise the name of the new company?

Defective masks

Q4: It is mentioned in the press that some of the QSi production was faulty. In the article, found here, it mentions that the older stock was put 'on hold'. Was this stock destroyed or reused? Please advise numbers for each category?"

Response

Prior to the existence of Health New Zealand, the Ministry of Health managed the procurement of face masks. Your request has been transferred on the basis this subject area is now more closely connected to Health NZ functions. We have consulted with the Ministry on the response and below reflects our understanding of its position.

Q2: As a follow on from our original question 5, did QSi (or the new company) produce any additional masks for MOH? If yes, can you update the Table 1 you provided to include the number of masks produced to 30 June 2024?

No, QSi did not produce any further masks for the Ministry of Health.

Q3: To clarify, does MOH currently have a contract in 30 June 2024 with the entity that bought QSi (formally known as QSi)? If no, when did that existing contract come to an end? Can you also advise the name of the new company?

The Ministry of Health entered into a new Agreement with QSi (Quality Safety and Medical Manufacturers T/A Quality Safety) on 5 March 2021. That Agreement was transferred to Health NZ and remains current. We do not hold information on any change of QSi's ownership.

Defective Masks

Q4: It is mentioned in the press that some of the QSi production was faulty. In the article, found here, it mentions that the older stock was put 'on hold'. Was this stock destroyed or reused? Please advise numbers for each category?

This information is withheld pursuant to section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act, as making available the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of Health NZ.

How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can contact us at hnzOIA@tewhatuora.govt.nz.

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Health NZ may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Manager Supply Chain

Procurement, Supply Chain and Health Technology Management